Tamil Nadu should be formed which should include officials of both Forest and Police Departments for operating in the border areas.

(iv) Regulating the number of candal oil mills in Kerala.

**Special courts for environmental cases**

*13. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 129 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 1990 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision to set up special courts to deal with the environment related cases;

(b) the reasons for undertaking this measure;

(c) if so, the main lines of the scheme in this regard; and

(d) what would be its likely impact on the present situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTARY): (a) to (d) The matter is under examination.

**Pollution Control as an Industry**

14. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported demand of the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board for development of "Pollution Control" as an Industry as reported in Hindustan Times dated the 4th July, 1990;

(b) whether Government had examined the pollution control activities in the country and made any comparative study of the pattern being followed by the Pollution Boards of other developed countries; and

(c) if so, whether the pattern followed by other developed countries has been found to be feasible/practicable in the present Indian Environmental conditions?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) Yes, Sir. In his speech the Chairman of the Central Pollution Control Board spoke about the business opportunities in environmental pollution control.

(b) Yes, Sir. The policies adopted in other countries have been examined.

(c) Any strategy for prevention, abatement and control of pollution is to be specific to the conditions of each country because it is based on the state of industrialisation, the legislative frame-work, socio-economic conditions, administrative arrangements, etc. Government have prepared a draft policy statement on abatement of pollution as well as a discussion paper on the priorities to be adopted. These documents are to be considered by the Consultative Committee of Parliament of this Ministry, scheduled to be held in August, 1990.

**Revision of Gadgil formula for plan assistance to States**

15. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission is taking a second look at the Gadgil formula which is presently used to determine the size of the Centre's Plan assistance to each State;

(b) whether Government propose to revise the existing formula; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether the consent of all the State Governments would be taken before any final decision is taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission is considering revision of the modified Gadgil formula. Any decision for revision will be taken only with the approval of the National Development Council of which Chief Ministers are members.

**High radiation in Kerala coastal zone**

16. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has disputed the findings of private researchers regarding high radiation in Kerala's coastal zone as reported in the Indian Express of 2nd July, 1990;

(b) whether Government propose to set up an expert committee consiting of scientists from both Government and Voluntary Health Organisations to assess the correct position and to take precautionary measures; and

(c) whether Government also propose to include Voluntary Health Organisation's representatives on AERB to inspire public confidence and trust?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the reported findings of private researchers regarding high radiation in Kerala's coastal zone as appeared in the Indian Express of 2.7.1990. The Department of Atomic Energy has been conducting experiments to quantify the effects, if any, of radiation on the population. So far, no adverse effects have been seen which are statistically significant. In the AERB Newsletter (Vol. 6 No. 1, 1990), it is editorially stated: "Conclusive evidence to support one or the other theory has not been obtained because the predicted effects are very small and are difficult to be identified against the normal incidence of these effects". The Ministry of Environment and Forests have set up an Experts Committee on this subject. The "Centre for Industrial Safety", on whose findings the newspaper's report is based, has not so far given any report to the Committee.

(c) The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board has on it three members from outside the Department of Atomic Energy, out of which one is an eminent physician from a non-governmental institution. More than 70 experts are involved in various activities of AERB. In the light of this, Government do not propose at present to include any representatives from Voluntary Health Organisations in AERB.

**NOC from pollution control authorities for starting industrial operations**

17. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is mandatory for each and every industrial unit to obtain no objection certificate from pollution control authorities before commencing operations;

(b) the number of industrial units awaiting NOC from Pollution Control Authorities at the end of December, 1989 and at the end of June, 1990; and

(c) whether relevant effluent treatment facilities and technologies for all types of industries are presently available in the country; if so, the details of indigenous manufacturers of effluent treatment plants for respective industries?